

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 5 of the specification, the second paragraph should read:

It has now been found that oxidized phospholipids selectively enhance the anticoagulant properties of APC, with little impact on the clot-promoting reactions. It has ~~[[been]]~~ also been found that a subset of antiphospholipid antibodies selectively eliminate the oxidized lipid enhancement. An assay is herein disclosed which is useful for assessing the risk of thrombotic episodes by utilizing oxidized and nonoxidized phospholipids as separate reagents. The sample is tested for clotting by using each of the reagents in a parallel assay. The results are compared to those obtained with normal plasma to assess whether the sample plasma may contain indicators of thrombotic disease.

On page 6 of the specification, the first full paragraph should read:

Recent data has indicated that many of the antibodies identified by current assays are either partially or entirely targeted toward oxidized forms of either the lipid or protein antigen (see, for example, ~~[[[]]~~ Horkko, S., Miller, E., Dudi, E., Reaven, P., Curtiss, L.K., Zvaifler, N.J., Terkeltaub, R., Pierangeli, S.S., Branch, D.W., Pallinski, W. et al. 1996. "Antiphospholipid antibodies are directed against epitopes of oxidized phospholipids. Recognition of cardiolipin by monoclonal antibodies to epitopes of oxidized low density lipoprotein," J. Clin. Invest. 98:815-825). Surprisingly, it has now been found that oxidized phospholipids, that include phosphatidylethanolamine (PE), further enhances the activity of APC in the factor Va inactivation complex. In addition, the ability of at least a class of lupus anticoagulant or anti-phospholipid antibodies to inhibit APC activity is augmented by the presence of oxidized phospholipid. Patient plasma may be screened by assaying it in a one stage assay in the presence and absence of activated protein C, according to the methodology described in U.S. Patent 5,472,852 which is

herein incorporated by reference. The method of the '852 patent can be modified by using a membrane source comprising an effective amount of oxidized phospholipid which includes PE.